



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAR 27 2012

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Regional Review of the Draft "Greening the Superfund Remediation Process"

FROM: James E. Woolford, Director *James E. Woolford*
Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation

Elliott J. Gilberg, Director *Elliott J. Gilberg*
Office of Site Remediation Enforcement

TO: Regional Superfund National Program Managers, Regions 1 - 10

This memorandum transmits the draft recommendation titled: "Greening the Superfund Remediation Process." Regional comments are requested by May 1, 2012. Please provide comments to Robin M. Anderson (Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI)) at Anderson.robinm@epa.gov (703-603-8747) and Elisabeth Freed (Office of Site Remediation Enforcement (OSRE)) at Freed.Elisabeth@epa.gov (202-564-5117). Please let Robin and Elisabeth know if you need additional time for the review or have questions.

The draft memorandum recommends some approaches for regions to consider for what has come to be called *greener remediation* with respect to the Superfund remedial process. It provides a general approach to the consideration of greener remediation for all phases of the remedial process. The memorandum provides recommendations for all sites being addressed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA).

The draft set of recommendations:

- encourages consideration of greener remediation at any phase of a site cleanup;
- provides definitions of the terms "greener remediation" and "environmental footprint" for purposes of applying this guidance;
- clarifies that greener remediation ensures selection of protective remedies consistent with CERCLA and the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP);

- clarifies that, where greener remediation is considered as part of remedy selection, the NCP's nine criteria for evaluating remedial alternatives still applies, in particular short-term effectiveness;
- clarifies that use of a quantitative or qualitative environmental footprint reduction analysis is a site-specific decision; and,
- provides other recommendations, including some suggestions for reducing the environmental footprint of a remedial action.

This was crafted with the help of regional management and staff. We would like to give a special thanks to Region 9 for their efforts to craft a greener remediation policy memorandum in June, 2010 and Walter Mugdan for his efforts in developing the draft white-paper titled "Reducing and Mitigating Green-House Gas (GHG) Associated with Remediation of Contaminated Sites." These documents were used in the development of today's draft policy.

Attachment

cc: Mathy Stanislaus, OSWER
 Cynthia Giles, OECA
 Lisa Feldt, OSWER
 Barry Breen, OSWER
 Larry Stanton, OSWER/OEM
 Suzanne Rudzinski, OSWER/ORCR
 David Lloyd, OSWER/OBLR
 Reggie Cheatham, OSWER/FFRRO
 Carolyn Hoskinson, OSWER/OUST
 Dave Kling, OECA/FFEO
 Mary Kay Lynch, OGC
 John Michaud, OGC/SWERLO
 OSRTI Managers
 Chloe Metz, Superfund Lead Region Coordinator, Region 2
 NARPM Co-Chairs